

ANNUAL CONDITION OF EDUCATION 2006

Sections: I. Iowa and Its Schools

- II. Who is Teaching our Students?
- **III.** Learning Opportunities
- IV. Student Progress
- V. Return on Investment



WHAT STUDENTS ARE LEARNING

Schools strive to provide:

- Challenging courses for all grade levels.
- The right balance between "depth and breadth" of choices and opportunities for students – both in class and in extracurriculars.
- Smooth transitions between elementary, middle, and high school – and beyond.
- Guidance and planning tools to help a student define and achieve success.

Districts must offer specific courses for each grade level.

 Each district sets its own curriculum, and it must be based on state and local <u>standards</u>.

At the high school level, districts must offer:



units of English

units of math

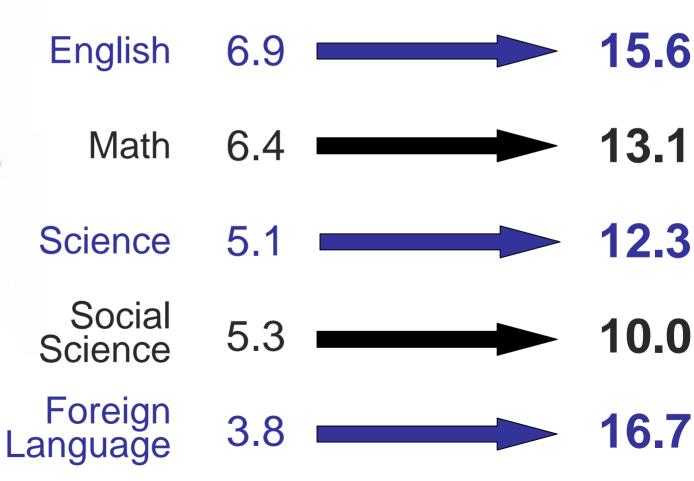
units of science

units of social studies

units of foreign language



RANGE OF OPPORTUNITIES



PROVIDING STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES

- More students have access to computers and the Internet.
- All-day kindergarten and preschool are available to more children.
- More districts offer school-age childcare before and after school.



More students are taking **COPE** courses, **advanced** courses, and **college** courses.

24% enrolled in higher level math

67% enrolled in chemistry

26% enrolled in physics

15,000 took AP classes, with 6,607 test-takers



ADDRESSING THE CHALLENGES

- Districts are increasing their course opportunities through
 - Distance learning via online and ICN
 - Sharing courses and teachers with other districts
 - Collaboration with postsecondary institutions
- Quality preschool programs need to be available to more students